

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-33 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 21 and 23-32 are amended and claim 33 has been added. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the amendments can be found in Applicant's Fig. 14, for example, which shows that a print data packet includes destination data and print data. Reconsideration the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 32 is amended to provide clarification of "join request." Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 4-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0046065 to Furukawa et al. (hereinafter "Furukawa") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0097425 to Chen and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,051,087 to Bahl et al. (hereinafter "Bahl"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Concerning claim 1, Furukawa, Chen and Bahl do not support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that they do not disclose or suggest, a data transmitting system that transmits the data to be processed through the network using a third multicast address, said second device being designated as a destination of the data to be processed; and a data receiving system that is configured to receive data transmitted from said data transmitting system using the third multicast address if the data transmitted from said transmitting system is data having said second device as the designated destination, as called for in claim 1. Independent claims 21 and 23-31 recite at least one of the above-mentioned features or a similar feature

According to the amended claims, the data transmission from the first device to the second device is executed using the multicast transmission process. Therefore, even if an appropriate IP address is not assigned to the first device, the data can be transmitted to the second device, which is on the network. An address of a target device to which the data is to be transmitted is assigned to the data subject to the multicast transmission with the multicast address.

In Furukawa, a data transmission of print data using a multicast address is disclosed. Specifically, to each of a plurality of printers, which a user intends to make receive print data, a multicast address is set using a unicast (*see* Fig. 5 of Furukawa). When a PC transmits the print data in accordance with the multicast transmission using the multicast address set as described above, the plurality of printers to which the multicast address was set receive the print data and execute printing operation (*see* Fig. 6 of Furukawa). In other words, all of the printers to which the multicast address has been set receive the print data.

According to the amended claims, the data transmitting system executes the multicast transmission of the data to which the destination (i.e., the second device) is designated as a destination. Further, the data receiving system receives the data, which is transmitted using the third multicast address, only when the second device is designated as the destination. As discussed above, according to the claims, with use of the multicast address (for transmitting data to a plurality of device), data is transmitted only to a predetermined device (i.e., the second device). In other words, the first device can transmit data to a predetermined device even when the data communication uses a multicast address. Therefore, even if an appropriate IP address is not set to a predetermined device, data can be transmitted to the predetermined device using a multicast address.

Furukawa does not disclose the data transmitting system and data receiving system as set forth in the independent claims. Therefore, according to Furukawa, if data is transmitted


using a multicast address, the data is received by all of a plurality of devices to which the multicast address is set. Thus, Furukawa fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the independent claims. In addition, Chen and Bahl fail to overcome the deficiencies of Furukawa as discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RHR/kcp

Attachments:

Amendment Transmittal
Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 21, 2008

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